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REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-23 and 25-31 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-8, 10-23 and 25-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a).

Amendments to the Specification

Applicants propose to amend the specification based on FIG. 1 to indicate that "the service control components 127 and/or 128 are connected to the application server components 135 and/or 140" and "The one or more application server components 135 and 140 may be connected to at least one of the one or more switch components 150, 155, 160, 165, 170, and 175".

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 1, 3-8, 10-23 and 25-31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over U. S. Patent Application Number 2003/0228011 issued to Gibson dated December 11, 2003 in view of U. S. Patent Number 6,625,141 issued to Glitho on September 23, 2003.

Applicants have avoided this ground of rejection for the following reasons.

First, applicants' claim 1, as amended, now recites,

"a service control component that provides to one or more telephony devices of a plurality of telephony devices on a call, one or more services associated with one or more numbers associated with the one or more telephony devices on the call; and

one or more application server components connected to the service control component and one or more switch components, the one or more application server components being configured to

cooperate with the service control component through employment of a Session Initiation Protocol to establish one or more data streams to communicate information between the service control component and the one or more application server components to provide the one or more services,

communicate with the one or more of the switch components via the Session Initiation Protocol, and

cooperate with the service control component and the one or more switch components to transmit one or more user inputs for the call."

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As stated in the Office Action, Gibson does not teach or suggest "a Session Initiation Protocol to establish one or more data streams between the service control component and the one or more application server components". Moreover, applicants note that Gibson does not disclose "one or more application server components connected to the service control component and one or more one or more switch components" the one or more application server components being configured to "communicate with the one or more of the switch components via the Session Initiation Protocol, and cooperate with the service control component and the one or more switch components to transmit one or more user inputs for the call" either.

Instead, Gibson discloses a "SN/IP 57" which the Examiner has equated to applicants' "one or more application server components". SN/IP 57 is connected to SCP 23 and Internet 44. See FIG. 1. SN/IP 57 is not connected to a switching component. Thus, SN/IP 57 is not equivalent to applicants' recited "one or more application server components".

Applicants acknowledge that Gibson discloses an Intelligent Peripheral 40 (IP 40) that is connected to SCP 23 and SSP 24 as shown in FIG. 18. However, Gibson discloses that IP 40 and SCP 23 communicate via SR-3511. Gibson's IP 40 is an AIN Intelligent Peripheral. Gibson does not disclose a SIP interface between IP 40 and SSP 24 and Gibson does not disclose that the AIN IP 40 is compatible with SIP. Thus, Gibson is missing "the one or more application server components being configured to "communicate with the one or more of the switch components via the Session Initiation Protocol" elements, as recited in claim 1.

Second, applicants acknowledge that Glitho discloses a server with SIP interfaces and a SCP with SIP interfaces. However, Glitho does not disclose an application server that is connected to a SCP and a switch component. Also, Glitho does not disclose an application server that communicates with the SCP via SIP interfaces and the switch component via SIP interfaces. Nor does Glitho disclose that the application server component cooperates with the service control component and one or more switch components to transmit one or more user inputs for the call. Thus, Glitho, similar to Gibson, is missing "the one or more application server components

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being configured to "communicate with the one or more of the switch components via the Session Initiation Protocol and cooperate with the service control component and one or more switch components to transmit one or more user inputs for the call" elements, as recited in applicants' claim 1.

The Examiner proposes to modify Gibson by substituting Gibson's SR-3511 protocol with the Session Initiation Protocol disclosed in Glitho. However, SR-3511 and the modified version of Session Initiation Protocol are not equivalent. This is because SIP is a peer-to-peer protocol, thus it requires only a simple core network with intelligence distributed to the network edge, embedded in endpoints (i.e., terminating devices built in either hardware or software). By contrast, SR-3511 is an application level Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP) interface over a TCP/IP transport with features implemented in the network. Thus, the two protocols are not equivalent and the substitution is improper.

Therefore the proposed combination of Gibson and Glitho does not teach or suggest all of the limitations in applicants' claim 1, and therefore claim 1 is allowable over the proposed combination. Since claims 3-8, 10-22 and 27-31 depend from allowable claim 1, these claims are also allowable over the proposed combination.

Independent claims 23 and 26 each have a limitation similar to that of independent claim 1, which, as shown above, is not taught by the proposed combination. For example, claim 23 recites "establishing communications between one or more service control components and one or more application server components through a Session Initiation Protocol to establish one or more data streams based on the information and between the one or more application server components and one or more switch components via the Session Initiation Protocol so that the one or more application server components can cooperate with the service control component and the one or more switch components to transmit one or more user inputs for the call", and claim 26 recites "means for providing, by one or more service control components communicating with one or more application server components and one or more switching components, one or more services to one or more telephony devices on a call through employment of a Session Initiation Protocol to establish one or more data streams between the one or more service control components and the one or more

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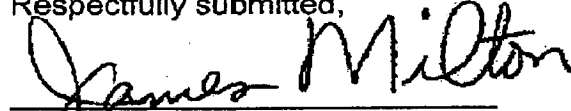
application server components; wherein the one or more application server components cooperate with the service control component and the one or more switch components to transmit one or more user inputs for the call". The proposed combination does not teach or suggest these limitations for the above-mentioned reasons. Therefore, claims 23 and 26 are likewise allowable over the proposed combination. Since claim 25 depends from claim 23, this dependent claim is also allowable over the proposed combination.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action's rejections have been overcome and that this application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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